NOSTALGIA

# Bad week for trumpeters, and cats

*MIKE PETTY AND JAMES MILNER LOOK THROUGH THE CAMBRIDGE NEWS ARCHIVES AT SOME OF THE STORIES WE REPORTED ON THIS DAY IN THE PAST*

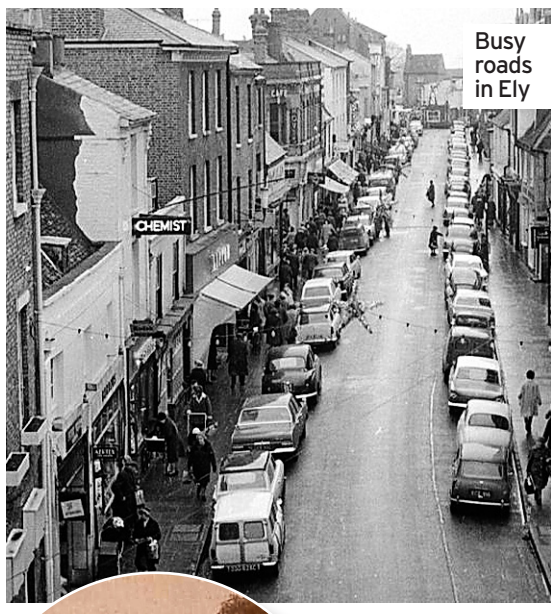
## Motorists should shun Ely - 1955

ELY is the only town which has done nothing at all in the way of providing parking facilities and motorists should boycott it in order to get the situation improved, the chief constable said.

On market day, the High Street was choc-a-block with cars parked bumper to bumper down both sides, leaving a narrow channel for vehicles to pass down the middle. It was very dangerous for ladies with prams and pedestrians trying to cross.

It was the same in Market Street and in Nutholt Lane, the main approach to the sugar beet factory, they found cattle floats parked forcing many drivers to get on the pavement when meeting approaching vehicles.

"Half of Ely is taken up by the Cathedral and its grounds and I have only the other half to use for parking and this is comprised of narrow streets," he complained.



Busy roads in Ely

## Plans to demolish Assize courts - 1953

CAMBRIDGE city council has asked the county not to demolish the old Assize Courts which are at present closed because of dry rot.

As it is a building of special architectural interest, further consideration should be given to its preservation.

Dry rot does not necessarily involve the demolition of the whole structure of an affected building – none of the colleges have had to demolish their buildings, though many of them have been affected from time to time.

But the county says there is no assurance that further infection could be prevented. They intend to re-erect the façade of the building elsewhere.

## Landlady did not like life in Canada - 1932

THE landlord of the Bridge Inn, Clayhithe, told the bankruptcy court that in 1909 he had emigrated to Alberta, Canada, taking a homestead of 160 acres.

The Bridge Inn

But his wife could not stand life on the prairie so she bought the Bridge Hotel and told him he could remain in Canada but she would stay there. He did not want to lose his wife and family, so he returned.

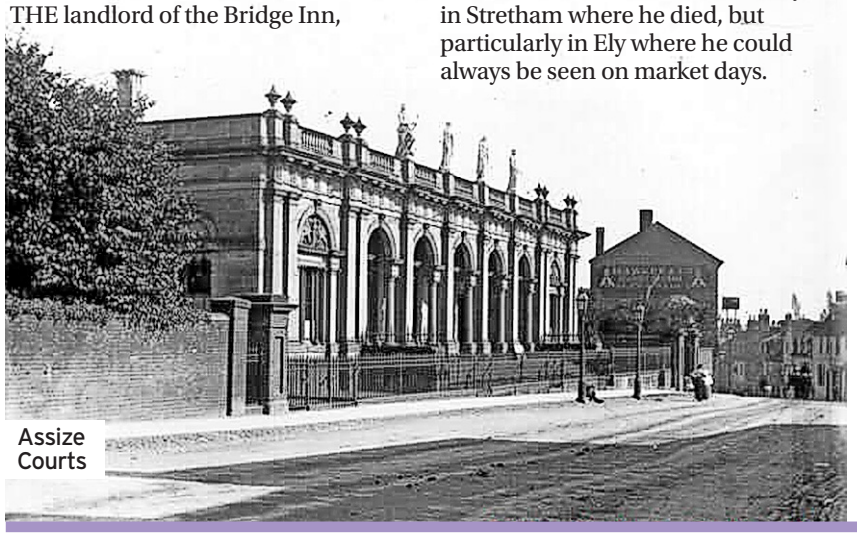
He knew nothing about the licensing trade and there had been no summer in the last two years, so he had lost money. One of the reasons for his failure was that he did not provide proper meals for customers.

## Death of carrier 'known to everyone' - 1927

NO longer will residents at Ely see the familiar old figure with his grey mare delivering parcels in the city.

At the advanced age of 82 years, death has claimed Mr Edward Lowe, who has regularly driven into Ely as a carrier for upwards of 68 years.

He was known to everyone for miles around, and his happy personality won him a host of friends, not only in Stretham where he died, but particularly in Ely where he could always be seen on market days.


Assize Courts